



Brighton & Hove Connected
Tuesday 23rd September 20, 4.00-6.00pm
Suite 1, Jurys Inn, 101 Stroudley Road
Brighton, BN1 4DJ

Present:

Tony Mernagh	Business Sector (Chair)
Vic Borrill	City Sustainability Partnership
Penny Thompson	Brighton & Hove City Council
Paula Murray	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Warren Morgan	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald	Brighton & Hove City Council
Ramona Booth	Clinical Commissioning Group
Nev Kemp	Sussex Police, Brighton & Hove
Tim Smith	Jobcentre Plus
Chris Baker	University of Brighton
Sarah Springford	Business Sector
Geraldine Des Moulins	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Ian Chisnall	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Gary Pargeter	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Sally Polanski	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Caroline Ridley	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Jessica Sumner	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Vicky Watson	Advice Partnership
Lynn Thackway	City Employment & Skills Steering Group
Dean Orgill	Economic Partnership
Marcelo Staricoff	Learning Partnership
Leighe Rogers	Safe in the City Partnership
Pinaki Ghoshal	Services for Children Forum
Julie Frith	Strategic Housing Partnership

Independent Secretariat:

Charmian Hay-Ellis (minutes)
 Simon Newell

Presenting:

Linda Beanlands	Brighton & Hove City Council
Nick Hibberd	Brighton & Hove City Council
Geoff Raw	Brighton & Hove City Council

Officers Attending:

Kynan Kelly	Brighton & Hove Connected
Corinna Allan	Brighton & Hove City Council
Richard Butcher-Tuset	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cian Cronin	Brighton & Hove City Council
Simon Hughes	Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company

Colin Vincent
Frank LeDuc

Older People's Council
Brighton & Hove News

Apologies:

Cllr. Bill Randall	Brighton & Hove City Council (Vice-chair)
Cllr. Jason Kitcat	Brighton & Hove City Council
Geraldine Hoban	Clinical Commissioning Group
Richard O'Callaghan	Environment Agency
Doris Ndebele	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Andrew Comben	Arts & Creative Industries Commission

1. Welcome, Introductions & Chair's communications

- 1.1 Apologies listed as above
- 1.2 Tony Mernagh (TM) welcomed the new members of the board:
 - Dean Orgill, new Economic Partnership chair and representative, replacing Gary Peters
 - Tim Smith, new Jobcentre Plus representative, replacing Grahame Widdowson
 - Pinaki Ghoshal, new representative for the Services for Children's Forum
 - Sarah Springford, new representative for the Business Sector, replacing Trevor Freeman
- 1.3 Penny Thompson (PT) was invited to give an update on the current work of the City Management Board (CMB). She provided the following highlights:
 - **Public Sector Property Group:** The group is progressing well, with lots of promising opportunities available, including potential for a partially used site which could be released.
 - **Raising Aspirations in Brighton & Hove – People & Place:** A useful discussion took place around how to raise aspirations of those in our city. Further work with the universities and City College will be carried out. PT emphasised the need to instil in our city's children the desire to learn and succeed
 - **Approaches to Public Sector Budget Pressures:** Frank discussions were had about current and future budget pressures and the need to continue to work together. As a result, finance directors of each organisation have agreed to meet on a regular basis to aid the coordinated approach
 - **Communications Strategy around Primary Care Options:** Continuing Accident & Emergency pressures are having an impact on scheduled care. Work is being done to try and counteract the problem by refreshing the strategy and getting messages out about alternative primary care options
 - **Human Resources:** It has been agreed to work together on issues around HR policies in public service organisations
- 1.4 Ian Chisnall (IC) said that it was often difficult to engage the voluntary sector when speaking about finance and budgets especially those representatives who had child care or transport issues. He asked if it would be possible to offer any financial assistance. PT responded that this issue had been considered and that more creative forms of engagement were being sought particularly taking the consultation opportunities out to the localities. Sally Polanski (SP) noted that it was important to emphasise the purpose of any engagement particularly around what can/can't be influenced.
- 1.5 With the current financial pressures facing the city, it was agreed that new ways of working would have to be considered and acted upon. It will not be something

that the city can rely solely on economic growth to solve, but fundamental change will be required.

- 1.6 PT circulated a copy of a council leaflet that outlined the ongoing budget stresses for the Local Authority. Geraldine Des Moulins (GDM) asked if it would be more useful to the public if the leaflet was more explicit in its contents. PT replied that it was mainly aimed at council staff and partners, not necessarily for the public, but that engaging with the public will form part of the next steps.

2. Minutes & matters arising from meeting 24/06/14

- 2.1 The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed
- 2.2 Regarding item 4.2, it has been confirmed that that such detailed benchmarking research on the number of different voluntary organisations is not regularly undertaken in other areas so a number of other potential sources will need to be contacted. This will aim to be done in September.
- 2.3 For item 4.4, unfortunately, there is no national compilation of area figures on the rate of volunteers compared with other regions but more information and statistics can be found at <http://www.ivr.org.uk/ivr-volunteering-stats>
- 2.4 Under item 5.3, a survey will be coming out in September for attendees at Partnership structures. The Volunteering Champions Groups have helped shaped the initial ideas and Laura Williams will be working with Simon Newell (SN) on writing and disseminating it. **Action: Simon Newell/Charmian Hay-Ellis**
- 2.5 For item 6, Pinaki Ghoshal (PG) informed the group that the next Services for Children Forum will focus on teenagers and adolescence. This will provide forum members with an opportunity to discuss a wide range of issues.
- 2.6 All other actions had either been completed or would be discussed during this meeting

3. Interviews with 2 Brighton & Hove Connected Members

- 3.1 TM conducted interviews with Tim Smith (TS) FROM Jobcentre Plus and Gary Pargeter (GP) from Community Works.

4. Community Safety in the City Centre

- 4.1 Leigh Rogers (LR) gave a brief overview of the item and then encouraged the group to discuss three key questions:
- How can we work together to make it a place where everyone feels as safe as they can do?
 - What does future service provision in this area look like?
 - What is the role of all partners in achieving our aim?
- 4.2 TM highlighted that there are often limited rehabilitation services in prisons. He asked if this was something that could be looked into. LR replied that it was often easier for those on short sentences to access rehab services, as they mostly stay in the same location. With long sentences however, this proves more difficult to provide as people often move around. It's acknowledged widely however that it is a life changing experience and that clients need to be supported once their sentence is completed.
- 4.3 Linda Beanlands (LB) noted that priorities for community safety have changed over the years, many of which would not automatically have been thought of and yet are big issues for the city, e.g. modern slavery
- 4.4 Nev Kemp (NK) stated that Sussex Police as an organisation have already had 20% of their budget cut, with approximately 20% more to still be taken. The reductions have primarily been taken so far by top slicing back office systems, but this will prove difficult going forward. A restructure will be undertaken focusing on what a target operating model might look like. He added that there was a need to

look at working differently but also taking into account that this will have impacts either within the organisation or elsewhere

- 4.5 Chris Baker (CB) said that, as partners, there is a need to be smarter at voluntarily working together. Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald highlighted a good example of this, when local shops were asked to voluntarily stop selling cheap high strength alcohol. The owners showed cooperation with this effort and recognised the benefits of it to all
- 4.6 Paula Murray (PM) noted that there was a level of behaviour that had seemingly become acceptable in certain areas of the city, which should have been avoided. As such, the perception of crime is high compared to actual levels of criminal activity. Jessica Sumner (JS) added that other partners need to take their share of responsibility and be included in these sorts of conversations, e.g. bar and club owners, event organisers, etc. It is often only a few people that cause the problems, but costs for rectifying these can be disproportionate.
- 4.7 NK stated that he would welcome joint commissioning for mental health services, viewing it as having enormous potential. Ramona Booth (RB) said that the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Local Authority do joint commissioning, but not with the police. PT stated that it needed to be considered a broader issue, with which the Police should be involved. LR highlighted that this happens with drugs and alcohol, but not with mental health. TM noted that the police often have to deal with cases relating to mental health issues, but have little training in this specific area.
- 4.8 Dean Orgill (DO) emphasised the need to involve local businesses with these processes in order to benefit each other. He added that there is often a culture of entitlement rather than responsibility when it comes to policing crime.
- 4.9 Geoff Raw (GR) said that street cleansing ambassadors often perform the role of the 'eyes and ears' of public services, as they already have a strong presence in the community and see first-hand issues with local areas, e.g. graffiti can be reported directly by smartphone.
- 4.10 Vic Borrill (VB) underlined the need to get local communities involved in looking after their own public spaces, rather than viewing it as someone else's responsibility. Showing residents the value and benefits of this, they are more likely to look after their area.
- 4.11 It was agreed that a summit would be arranged in 2015 to look at what both partners and individuals can do to contribute to providing safety solutions in the city. **Action: Leighe Rogers/Linda Beanlands/Simon Newell/Tony Mernagh**

5. Growth Fund & City Deal

- 5.1 Nick Hibberd (NH) gave a presentation on the Greater Brighton City Deal
- 5.2 Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald stated that it was a tribute to the other Local Authorities to see them all working together for a common cause. NH added that other authorities recognise how important cities are to economies.
- 5.3 IC said that it would be key to start to draw together economic development and successes with social and environmental matters as well. TM replied that the nascent UK recovery, upon which Brighton's own local economy depends, was still in an early phase and consequently taking centre stage, but the social agenda was not being forgotten. NH continued that the designation of the Biosphere, the National Park and the successful urban environment all contributed to the city's economic success.
- 5.4 The board thanked NH, Geoff Raw and all those that had been involved in this achievement.

6. AOB

- 6.1 None

Items for information

7. Partnership Feedback

- 7.1 5 out of 12 partnerships had responded with feedback. TM thanked the partnerships for sending these through and encouraged the group to read through these as it helps to strengthen the relationship between thematic partnerships and Brighton & Hove Connected. These have also been circulated to thematic partnership members for information

8. Date of next meeting

- 8.1 The next Brighton & Hove Connected meeting takes place on Tuesday 16th December 2014, 4.00-6.00pm, Suite 1 at the Jury's Inn Hotel, 101 Stroudley Road, Brighton, BN1 4DJ